

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:
 - a car having a wall portion, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway;
 - a car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered; and
 - a car guide shoe mounted on the car, for engaging with the car guide railwherein the wall portion is provided with a recess, a front face provided with a car entrance, a rear face facing the front face, a first side face, and a second side face facing the first side face;
 - the recess includes a first recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the first side face, and a second recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the second side face, a third recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the first side face, and a fourth recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the second side face;
 - the car is provided with a first suspending member connecting portion and a second suspending member connecting portion to which a main suspending member for suspending the car is connected respectively, the first suspending member connecting portion and the second suspending member connecting portion are provided in the third recess and the fourth recess respectively ~~on a vertical projection plane~~ and

the car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess ~~on the vertical projection plane~~ and the car guide shoe includes a first car guide shoe provided in the first recess, and a second car guide shoe provided in the second recess.

2 - 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:

a car having a wall portion, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway;

a car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered;

a counterweight that is raised and lowered within the hoistway, and

a car guide shoe mounted on the car, for engaging with the car guide rail,

wherein the wall portion is provided with a recess, and has a front face provided with a car entrance, a rear face facing the front face, a first side face, and a second side face facing the first side face;

the recess includes a first recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the first side face, and a second recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the second side face, at least one of a third recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the first side face, and a fourth recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the second side face;

the car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess ~~on a vertical projection plane~~ and includes a first car guide shoe provided in the first recess, and a second car guide shoe provided in the second recess; and

the counterweight is disposed in at least one of the third recess and the fourth recess ~~on the vertical projection plane.~~

6. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:
 - a car having a wall portion, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway;
 - a car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered; and
 - a car guide shoe mounted on the car, for engaging with the car guide rail,
 - wherein the wall portion is provided with a recess, a front face provided with a car entrance, a rear face facing the front face, a first side face, and a second side face facing the first side face;
 - the recess includes a first recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the first side face, and a second recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the second side face, a third recess provided in a corner portion between the rear face and the first side face, and a fourth recess provided in a corner portion between the front face and the second side face;
 - the car is provided on its lower portion with a first car suspending pulley and a second car suspending pulley;
 - main suspending members for suspending the car are wound around the first car suspending pulley and the second car suspending pulley; and
 - the first car suspending pulley and the second car suspending pulley are disposed to be partially located in the third recess and the fourth recess respectively ~~on a vertical projection plane~~, and the car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess ~~on the vertical projection plane~~ and includes a first car guide shoe

provided in the first recess, and a second car guide shoe provided in the second recess.

7 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:

a car having a wall portion, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway;

a car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered; and

a car guide shoe mounted on the car, for engaging with the car guide rail, wherein

the wall portion is provided with a recess, and has a front face provided with a car entrance, a rear face facing the front face, a first side face, and a second side face facing the first side face;

the recess of said wall portion includes a first recess provided in the first side face, and a second recess provided in the second side face, the first recess and the second recess projecting into an interior of the car; and

the car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess.

10. (Previously Presented) The elevator apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein:

the car guide rail includes a first car guide rail opposed to the first recess, and a second car guide rail opposed to the second recess;

the car is provided on the first side face side with a first suspending portion to which a first main suspending member for suspending the car is connected;

the car is provided on the second side face side with a second suspending portion to which a second main suspending member for suspending the car is connected; and

the first car guide rail and the second car guide rail including rear faces and having a pitch between car guide rail rear faces which is set equal to or smaller than a car suspension pitch defined by the first main suspending member and the second main suspending member.

11 - 14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:

a car having a wall portion, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway;

a car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered; and

a car guide shoe mounted on the car, for engaging with the car guide rail,

wherein the wall portion is provided with a recess, and has a front face provided with a car entrance, a rear face facing the front face, a first side face, and a second side face facing the first side face;

the car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess ~~on a vertical projection plane;~~

the car is provided with a suspending portion to which a main suspending member for suspending the car is connected; and

the suspending portion is disposed in the recess common to the car guide shoe ~~on the vertical projection plane.~~

16. (Previously Presented) The elevator apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a drive device provided in an upper portion of the hoistway and having a drive sheave around which a main suspending member for suspending the car is wound, for raising and lowering the car via the main suspending member, wherein

the drive device is disposed so that a rotating shaft of the drive sheave extends vertically or substantially vertically.

17. (Previously Presented) The elevator apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein:

the car is provided with a car door device for opening and closing a car entrance; and

the car door device has a plurality of car doors that overlap one another in a door-open state.

18. (Currently Amended) An elevator apparatus comprising:

a drive device having a drive sheave;

a first main suspending member and a second main suspending member wound around the drive sheave;

a car having a first suspending portion to which the first main suspending member is connected and a second suspending portion to which the second main suspending member is connected, for being raised and lowered within a hoistway through a driving force of the drive device; and

a first car guide rail and a second car guide rail installed within the hoistway, for guiding the car when the car is raised and lowered,

wherein the first car guide rail and the second car guide rail have a pitch between car guide rail rear faces which is ~~set equal to or~~ smaller than a car suspension pitch defined by the first suspending portion and the second suspending portion, in a width direction of the car.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The elevator apparatus according to Claim 10, further comprising:

a safety device installed in the car, for engaging with the car guide rail to stop the car as an emergency measure,

wherein the wall portion is provided with a recess, and the safety device is at least partially disposed in the recess ~~on a vertical projection plane~~.